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Summary Report of the Geological Survey Branch of the Department of Mines, Canada, for the Calendar Year 1909. By R. W. BROCK, Director. Pp. 307.

Besides the administrative report of the director of the survey, there is included in this volume a short summary report by each of the geologists and officers of the survey, of the work carried out during the year. Almost all of the work at present being undertaken is along economic lines.

E. R. L.

"The Tectonic Lines of the Northern Part of the North American Cordillera." By W. JOERG. *Bull. Am. Geog. Soc.*, XLII (1910), 161-79. With map.

This paper pictures the tectonic lines of the North American Cordillera from the 40th parallel to Bering Sea. Though the author has based his work in part upon the reports of the geological surveys of the United States and Canada, he has confessedly followed Suess, in the main, both in subject-matter and in mode of treatment. The chief purpose of this paper is to consider in their larger relations the individual ranges and groups of ranges which go to make up this complex system. The interrelations of these mountain chains are discussed in a condensed synoptical form. The axes of the many separate, individual ranges are located on the map by heavy black tectonic lines which show graphically the distribution and direction of deformative movements. A prominent place is given to the mountain systems of Alaska.

In conclusion the author suggests the subdivision of the North American Cordillera from Bering Sea to the Isthmus of Tehuantepec into three major divisions: (1) Northern Cordillera, or Alaskides; (2) Central Cordillera; (3) Southern Cordillera, or Lower California and the Mexican Highland.

The boundary between the first and second divisions would be the zone of coalescence near the Alaskan boundary, that between the second and third the depression along Salton Sink, the Gila, and the Rio Grande. The decided Asiatic structure of the Alaskides is the reason given for recognizing them as an independent major subdivision of the Cordillera.

R. T. C.